

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CARACA 03492 021439Z

51

ACTION PM-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05

L-02 EB-07 MC-02 /033 W

----- 070652

R 021327Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8208

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCSO

S E C R E T CARACAS 3492

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS

SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVES AND GUIDELINES FOR
VENEZUELA

REF: STATE 15489

1. THE EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT OF THE NEED FOR, EFFECTIVENESS OF, AND INTERRELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS OF THE U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN VENEZUELA PLANNED FOR FY 76-81 IS REFLECTED IN RECENT CASP AND POM SUBMISSIONS. THE FY 76-77 CASP PAPER WAS TRANSMITTED UNDER AIRGRAM A-39 OF MARCH 7, AND THE PROGRAM OBJECTIVES MEMORANDUM SUBMISSION FOR FY 77-81 WAS SENT TO USCINCSO ON JANUARY 17. AMBASSADOR MCCLINTOCK APPROVED BOTH OF THESE DOCUMENTS BEFORE THEY WERE SUBMITTED.

2. THE EMBASSY'S VIEW, EXPLAINED IN GREATER DETAIL IN THESE TWO DOCUMENTS, IS THAT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF VENEZUELA'S INCREASED EARNINGS FROM OIL AND ITS LEADERSHIP AMBITIONS IN LATIN AMERICA THERE NOW EXIST EVEN GREATER CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR U.S. SECURITY INTERESTS IN VENEZUELA. WE HAVE SUGGESTED THAT THE U.S. SEEK NEW FORMS OF COOPERATION AND CONTACT WITH THE VENEZUELAN ARMED FORCES, AND THAT THE U.S. SHOULD ASSURE VENEZUELA THAT A GRADUAL REDUCTION IN FMS DIRECT CREDIT DOES NOT REPRESENT A DECLINING INTEREST IN CLOSE RELATIONS WITH THE VENEZUELAN MILITARY.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 CARACA 03492 021439Z

IN BRIEF, OUR VIEW IS THAT CURRENT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL

DEVELOPMENTS SUPPORT CONTINUING A U.S. SECURITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN VENEZUELA.

3. IN RESPONSE TO THE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS IN PARA 38 (1), THE QUESTION OF THE IMPACT OF SECURITY ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS ON OTHER U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE DOES NOT PERTAIN IN VENEZUELA, SINCE THERE ARE NO U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS HERE AT PRESENT. THE EFFECT OF THIRD COUNTRY MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO VENEZUELA ON U.S. ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IS TWOFOLD. FIRST, THE VENEZUELAN EXPERIENCE WITH THIRD COUNTRY MATERIEL HAS NOT BEEN NOTABLY SUCCESSFUL. FOR EXAMPLE, THE VENEZUELAN HAVE EXPRESSED DISSATISFACTION WITH "MIRAGE" JETS AND AMX-30 TANKS. THIS EXPERIENCE HAS TENDED TO MAKE THE VENEZUELAN LOOK INCREASINGLY TO THE U.S. FOR MATERIEL, BOTH FOR REASONS OF QUALITY AND SUPPORT. SECONDLY, HOWEVER, THIRD COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THE U.K., FRANCE, ITALY AND ISRAEL, CONTINUE TO OFFER VENEZUELA FAVORABLE CREDIT TERMS FOR PURCHASE OF THEIR MILITARY EQUIPMENT. THE INABILITY OF THE U.S. TO PROVIDE SUBSTANTIAL FMS DIRECT CREDITS COULD FORCE THE VENEZUELAN, DESPITE THEIR GROWING PREFERENCE FOR U.S. PRODUCTS AND THEIR GOOD REPAYMENT RECORD, TO ACCEPT THE MORE FAVORABLE TERMS OFFERED BY OTHER COUNTRIES.

4. THE VENEZUELAN ARMED FORCES ARE SELF-SUFFICIENT IN DEFENSE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT. HOWEVER, THEY ARE NOT YET SELF-SUFFICIENT IN TOP-LEVEL MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUES AND PROCEDURES. THE VENEZUELAN ARMED FORCES THEMSELVES RECOGNIZE THIS DEFICIENCY. THIS IS REFLECTED IN THE VENEZUELAN ARMED FORCES' PLANS FOR REORGANIZATION OF THE U.S. MILITARY GROUP TO INCLUDE MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS IN KEY AREAS.
ASENCIO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, DOCUMENTS, MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS, CASP, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CARACA03492
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750114-0377
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750491/aaaademb.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PM
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 15489
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SECURITY ASSISTANCE OBJECTIVES AND GUIDELINES FOR VENEZUELA
TAGS: MASS, VE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006